UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/675,369	09/30/2003	Herbert M. Wildfeuer	062891.1167	5981

5073 7590 12/28/2007		EXAMINER
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P. 2001 ROSS AVENUE SUITE 600 DALLAS, TX 75201-2980		NGUYEN, PHUONGCHAU BA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2616	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
12/28/2007	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

ptomail1@bakerbotts.com
glenda.orrantia@bakerbotts.com

PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Interview Summary	10/675,369	WILDFEUER ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Phuongchau Ba Nguyen	2616	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) *Phuongchau Ba Nguyen*. (3)_____.

(2) *Keiko Ichiye*. (4)_____.

Date of Interview: *03 December 2007*.

Type: a)☒ Telephonic b)☐ Video Conference
  c)☐ Personal [copy given to: 1)☐ applicant 2)☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d)☐ Yes e)☒ No.
  If Yes, brief description: _____.

Claim(s) discussed: *1,7,13,19 and 20*.

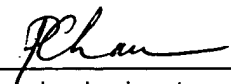Identification of prior art discussed: *Robert (6,327,276), Laursen (US2003/0002481A1),*.

Agreement with respect to the claims f)☐ was reached. g)☒ was not reached. h)☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: *See Continuation Sheet*.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.

_____
Examiner's signature, if required

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: First, the proposed claims were not clear what is meant by the function f? although the sepcification merely disclosed an example of determining a metric rating y using function f, no where in the original disclosure disclosed what is the function f. Second, by amended claims 1,7,13,19 as proposed in the draft filed 11-26-7, applicant had overcome the previous art rejections issued in 10-5-7. Third, by amended claim 13 as proposed in the draft filed 11-26-7, applicant had overcome the 101 rejection.

BAKER BOTTS LLP

2001 ROSS AVENUE
DALLAS, TEXAS
75201-2980

TEL +1 214.953.6500
FAX +1 214.953.6503
www.bakerbotts.com

AUSTIN
BEIJING
DALLAS
DUBAI
HONG KONG
HOUSTON
LONDON
MOSCOW
NEW YORK
RIYADH
WASHINGTON

Fax receipt will not be confirmed by phone unless requested.

FROM	Keiko Ichiye	VOICE NO.	214-953-6494
DATE	November 26, 2007	FAX NO.	214-661-4494
PAGES	11	RETURN TO	Laurie Scott

TO	Examiner Phuongchau Ba Nguyen	FAX NO.	571-273-3148
		VOICE NO.	

MESSAGE

In re Application of: Herbert M. Wildfeuer, et al.

Serial No.: 10/675,369

Filing Date: September 30, 2003

Group Art Unit: 2616

Confirmation No. 5981

Examiner: Phuongchau Ba Nguyen

Title: MANAGING MULTICAST CONFERENCE CALLS

102 – 6327276 (1-3, 7-9, 13-15, 19
21-23

103 + 2003/0062481 (6, 12, 18

DRAFT AMENDMENT FOR
DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.   PATENT APPLICATION
062891.1167   10/675,369

1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Herbert M. Wildfeuer, et al.

Serial No.:   10/675,369

Filing Date: September 30, 2003

Group Art Unit: 2616

Confirmation No.   5981

Examiner: Phuongchau Ba Nguyen

Title: MANAGING MULTICAST CONFERENCE CALLS

Via fax: 571-273-3148

Commissioner For Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Washington, D.C. 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

DRAFT AMENDMENT

The following amendments are for discussion purposes only.

DAL01:985768.1

2

In the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method for managing a multicast conference call, comprising:

receiving a plurality of signals at a local endpoint participating in a multicast conference call among the local endpoint and one or more remote endpoints, the plurality of signals comprising a local signal and one or more remote signals, the local signal associated with the local endpoint, each remote signal associated with a remote endpoint of the one or more remote endpoints;

determining, at the local endpoint, a plurality of metric ~~ratings,~~ ratings by:

generating a metric vector for each signal of the plurality of signals; and   *p Clu5 cos*

applying a function to each metric vector to generate a metric rating for each signal, each metric rating reflecting an importance of a signal of the plurality of signals, the plurality of metric ratings comprising a local metric rating and one or more remote metric ratings, the local metric rating corresponding to the local signal, each remote metric rating corresponding to a remote signal of the one or more remote signals;

comparing the local metric rating and the one or more remote metric ratings; and

selecting a subset of the plurality of signals according to the comparison in order to manage the multicast conference call.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

mixing the remote signals of the subset of the plurality of signals; and

outputting the mixed remote signals of the subset of the plurality of signals.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

determining if the subset of the plurality of signals comprises the local signal; and

transmitting the local signal if the subset of the plurality of signals comprises the local signal.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

DAL01·985768.1

3

6.   (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein selecting the subset of the plurality of signals according to the comparison comprises:

identifying a predetermined number of highest ranked metric ratings; and

selecting the signals corresponding to the highest ranked metric ratings.

DAL01:985768.1

PAGE 4/11 * RCVD AT 11/26/2007 11:42:46 AM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-3/5 * DNIS:2733148 * CSID:214 953 6503 * DURATION (mm-ss):03-16

4

(7.)   (Currently Amended) A system for managing a multicast conference call, comprising:

one or more inputs ~~operable~~ **configured** to receive a plurality of signals at a local endpoint participating in a multicast conference call among the local endpoint and one or more remote endpoints, the plurality of signals comprising a local signal and one or more remote signals, the local signal associated with the local endpoint, each remote signal associated with a remote endpoint of the one or more remote endpoints;

the local endpoint including a metric extractor coupled to the one or more inputs, the metric extractor ~~operable~~ **configured** to determine a plurality of metric ~~ratings,~~ **ratings by:**

generating a metric vector for each signal of the plurality of signals; and   ) Ch 11 obj

applying a function to each metric vector to generate a metric rating for

each signal, each metric rating reflecting an importance of a signal of the plurality of signals, the plurality of metric ratings comprising a local metric rating and one or more remote metric ratings, the local metric rating corresponding to the local signal, each remote metric rating corresponding to a remote signal of the one or more remote signals; and

a comparator coupled to the metric extractor and ~~operable~~ **configured** to:

compare the local metric rating and the one or more remote metric ratings; and

select a subset of the plurality of signals according to the comparison in order to manage the multicast conference call.

8.   (Original) The system of Claim 7, further comprising an audio mixer ~~operable~~ **configured** to:

mix the remote signals of the subset of the plurality of signals; and

output the mixed remote signals of the subset of the plurality of signals.

9.   (Original) The system of Claim 7, further comprising a transmission controller ~~operable~~ **configured** to:

determine if the subset of the plurality of signals comprises the local signal; and

transmit the local signal if the subset of the plurality of signals comprises the local signal.

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.
062891.1167

PATENT APPLICATION
10/675,369

5

10.   (Cancelled)

11.   (Cancelled)

12.   (Original)   The system of Claim 7, wherein the comparator is ~~operable~~ **configured** to select the subset of the plurality of signals according to the comparison by:

identifying a predetermined number of highest ranked metric ratings; and

selecting the signals corresponding to the highest ranked metric ratings.

DAL01:985768.1

6   9

13.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium encoded with logic.
~~Logic~~ for managing a multicast conference call, the logic ~~embodied in a medium and operable~~ configured to:

receive a plurality of signals at a local endpoint participating in a multicast conference call among the local endpoint and one or more remote endpoints, the plurality of signals comprising a local signal and one or more remote signals, the local signal associated with the local endpoint, each remote signal associated with a remote endpoint of the one or more remote endpoints;

determine, at the local endpoint, a plurality of metric ~~ratings;~~ ratings by:

generating a metric vector for each signal of the plurality of signals; and

applying a function to each metric vector to generate a metric rating for

each signal, each metric rating reflecting an importance of a signal of the plurality of signals, the plurality of metric ratings comprising a local metric rating and one or more remote metric ratings, the local metric rating corresponding to the local signal, each remote metric rating corresponding to a remote signal of the one or more remote signals;

compare the local metric rating and the one or more remote metric ratings; and

select a subset of the plurality of signals according to the comparison in order to manage the multicast conference call.

14.   (Original) The logic of Claim 13, further ~~operable~~ configured to:
mix the remote signals of the subset of the plurality of signals; and
output the mixed remote signals of the subset of the plurality of signals.

15.   (Original) The logic of Claim 13, further ~~operable~~ configured to:
determine if the subset of the plurality of signals comprises the local signal; and
transmit the local signal if the subset of the plurality of signals comprises the local
signal.

16.   (Cancelled)

17.   (Cancelled)

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.   PATENT APPLICATION
062891.1167   10/675,369

7

18.   (Original) The logic of Claim 13, ~~operable~~ <u>configured</u> to select the subset of
the plurality of signals according to the comparison by:

identifying a predetermined number of highest ranked metric ratings; and

selecting the signals corresponding to the highest ranked metric ratings.

DAL01:985768.1

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.   PATENT APPLICATION
062891.1167   10/675,369

8

(19.)   (Currently Amended)   A system for managing a multicast conference call,
comprising:

means for receiving a plurality of signals at a local endpoint participating in a
multicast conference call among the local endpoint and one or more remote endpoints, the
plurality of signals comprising a local signal and one or more remote signals, the local signal
associated with the local endpoint, each remote signal associated with a remote endpoint of
the one or more remote endpoints;

means for determining, at the local endpoint, a plurality of metric ~~ratings,~~ ratings
by:

generating a metric vector for each signal of the plurality of signals; and   ~~it5~~

applying a function to each metric vector to generate a metric rating for
each signal, each metric rating reflecting an importance of a signal of the plurality of signals,
the plurality of metric ratings comprising a local metric rating and one or more remote metric
ratings, the local metric rating corresponding to the local signal, each remote metric rating
corresponding to a remote signal of the one or more remote signals;

means for comparing the local metric rating and the one or more remote metric
ratings; and

means for selecting a subset of the plurality of signals according to the comparison in
order to manage the multicast conference call.

9

20. (Original) A method for managing a multicast conference call, comprising:

receiving a plurality of signals at a local endpoint participating in a multicast conference call among the local endpoint and one or more remote endpoints, the plurality of signals comprising a local signal and one or more remote signals, the local signal associated with the local endpoint, each remote signal associated with a remote endpoint of the one or more remote endpoints;

determining a plurality of metric ratings, each metric rating reflecting an importance of a signal of the plurality of signals, the plurality of metric ratings comprising a local metric rating and one or more remote metric ratings, the local metric rating corresponding to the local signal, each remote metric rating corresponding to a remote signal of the one or more remote signals, the plurality of metric ratings determined by:

establishing one or more metric values for a signal of the plurality of signals according to a metric appended to the signal;

determining a metric rating for the signal in accordance with the one or more metric values;

generating a metric vector for each signal of the plurality of signals; and

determining a metric rating for each signal of the plurality of signals in accordance with the metric vector for the signal by applying a function to each metric vector;

comparing the local metric rating and the one or more remote metric ratings;

selecting a subset of the plurality of signals according to the comparison in order to manage the multicast conference call by:

identifying a predetermined number of highest ranked metric ratings; and

selecting the signals corresponding to the highest ranked metric ratings;

mixing the remote signals of the subset of the plurality of signals;

outputting the mixed remote signals of the subset of the plurality of signals;

determining if the subset of the plurality of signals comprises the local signal; and

transmitting the local signal if the subset of the plurality of signals comprises the local signal.

10

21.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein determining the plurality of metric ratings comprises:

establishing one or more metric values for a signal of the plurality of signals according to a metric appended to the signal; and

determining a metric rating for the signal in accordance with the one or more metric values.

22.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 7, wherein the metric extractor is ~~operable~~ <u>configured</u> to determine the plurality of metric ratings by:

establishing one or more metric values for a signal of the plurality of signals according to a metric appended to the signal; and

determining a metric rating for the signal in accordance with the one or more metric values.

23.   (Previously Presented) The logic of Claim 13, ~~operable~~ <u>configured</u> to determine the plurality of metric ratings by:

establishing one or more metric values for a signal of the plurality of signals according to a metric appended to the signal; and

determining a metric rating for the signal in accordance with the one or more metric values.